

room. An emergency was upon the Board, in meeting which they acted as wisdom prompted: built a larger building on the site of the burned building, devoted wholly to dormitory rooms, and began the erecting of another building, containing dining-hall in basement, with kitchen attached, lecture rooms and library on first floor, and auditorium on second floor, all of which were of commanding importance.

Insurance money on the burned building and other money, borrowed with the advice and consent of the Governor and his Council of State, were used for meeting the expenses of the work as far as it had progressed. Watauga Hall was practically complete, but the new "Pullen" Building had advanced but little beyond the bare brick walls and roofing.

This was the condition which confronted the Legislature of 1903.

I have begun to introduce into my report these College affairs, because of the close relationship, under one management, of the College and Department. And I have given this sketch of history concerning the Department with two objects in mind. First to show to the Legislature how nearly the Department of Agriculture in its successive stages of development has endeavored to track the requirements imposed upon the Board by successive Legislatures, and to declare to the Legislature that the work of the Department, as now conducted, is useful and necessary to the State, and cannot be abandoned without serious loss. The Department is now more nearly fulfilling all its obligations than has ever before in its history been possible. And secondly, to show also that all work undertaken by the Department, not explicitly set forth in the laws, such as its co-operative work with the State Board of Health, analysis of water and soils, its connection with the geological work and soil survey, its exhibits at international fairs and the like—all these useful undertakings are so much akin to the general purposes and